



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

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CONTACT: TAMMY HEISE
(615) 532-0929

TENNESSEE STATE PARKS OFFER SUMMER VACATION FUN ON LESS THAN A TANK OF GAS

Nashville, Tenn. - Tennessee State Parks offer summer vacation fun on less than a tank of gas. With unique recreation opportunities, high-quality accommodations and exceptional value so close to home, Tennesseans don't have to let rising fuel costs stall their summer plans. There is a Tennessee State Park within an hour's drive of just about anywhere in Tennessee.

Accommodations range from camping to cabins and inn rooms and state parks offer a variety of outdoor fun including hiking trails, water sports, mountain biking, golf and skeet shooting. Visit www.tnstateparks.com to make reservations or to learn more about what the Tennessee State Parks and the Tennessee Golf Trail have to enjoy.

In addition to our perennial features and amenities, Tennessee State Parks offer a host of special summer events, including:

June 7

Bledsoe Creek State Park in Sumner County will sponsor a fishing rodeo for children age 14 and younger in conjunction with Tennessee's Free Fishing Day.

June 14

Cove Lake State Park in Campbell County will host the Louie Bluie Music and Arts Festival from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

June 21-22

Roan Mountain State Park in Carter County will host the 62nd annual Rhododendron Festival, which highlights the world's largest natural rhododendron gardens.

June 23-27

David Crockett Birthplace State Park in Greene County will introduce young people to Appalachian frontier heritage with its weeklong pioneer camp.

July 4-6

Fort Pillow State Park in Lauderdale County will celebrate Independence Day with guided hikes along the Chickasaw Bluffs, arts and crafts demonstrations and museum tours.

July 10-12, 17-19 and 24-26

Sycamore Shoals State Park in Carter County will present "Liberty: Saga of Sycamore Shoals," Tennessee's longest running outdoor drama, at 7:30 p.m. each day. The drama recounts the major events surrounding the establishment of the Watauga Settlement on the grounds where they actually occurred.

(MORE)

July 26

Warrior's Path State Park in Sullivan County will host a Folklife Festival from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., featuring traditional crafts demonstrations and music.

August 2-3

Red Clay State Park in Bradley County will host the 26th annual Cherokee Days of Recognition from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The event will feature living history enactments, traditional dancing and storytelling.

August 8-10

David Crockett State Park in Lawrence County will host David Crockett Days to celebrate the legacy of Tennessee's pioneer statesman.

August 9

Burgess Falls State Park and Natural Area in White and Putnam Counties will celebrate its award-winning native butterfly garden with the annual Butterfly Festival.

August 15

Big Ridge State Park in Union County will host the 27th annual Bluegrass Festival from 7 p.m. to midnight.

September 5-7

Fall Creek Falls State Park in Bledsoe and Van Buren Counties will host the 30th annual Mountaineer Folk Festival, featuring traditional music, pioneer skills demonstrations and crafts.

September 6-7

Fort Loudoun State Park in Monroe County will mark the end of summer with its 18th Century Trade Faire, where costumed re-enactors and historians join artisans and entertainers to bring the period to life.

September 13

Standing Stone State Park in Overton County will host the National Rolley Hole Marbles Championship. This traditional marbles contest draws some of the country's best players and has been featured on ESPN, ABC Evening News, CNN and other media outlets.

A comprehensive schedule, with detailed event descriptions and contact information, is available at www.tnstateparks.com and click on "Less Than One Tank Trip." And visit the "Super Summer Site" link for more information on parks with unique summer recreation activities and accommodations.

Tennessee's 53 state parks offer diverse natural, recreational and cultural experiences for individuals, families or business and professional groups. State park features range from pristine natural areas to 18-hole championship golf courses. For a free brochure about Tennessee State Parks, call toll free 1-888-867-2757.

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